Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-38 (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) An alkaline detergent composition comprising:

(a) an effective soil removing amount of a source of alkalinity to provide the detergent with a pH of at least 10 when provided as a 1 wt.% aqueous solution; and

(b) an effective soil-removing amount of a surfactant blend comprising:

(i) a first nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient to provide starchy soil removal;

(ii) a second nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient to provide a use solution having a surface tension of less than about 35 dyne/cm, wherein the second nonionic surfactant comprises a silicone surfactant comprising a hydrophobic silicone group and a pendant hydrophilic group having the formula:

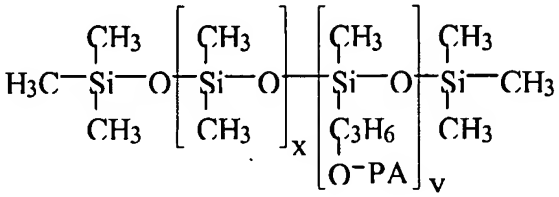
$$R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}(R_2SiO)_X(RSiO)_Y\text{-}SiR_3$$
$$\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\quad |$$
$$\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\quad PE$$

wherein PE represents $-CH_2-(CH_2)_p-O-(EO)_m(PO)_n-Z$, x is a number that ranges from ~~about~~ 0 to about 100, y is a number that ranges from about 1 to 100, p is o to 6, m and n are numbers that range from ~~about~~ 0 to about 50, ~~m+n≥1~~ $m+n \geq 1$, and Z represents hydrogen or R and each R independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl.

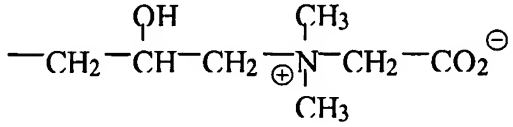
40. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the surfactant blend further comprises a third nonionic surfactant comprising a hydrophobic group and an $-(EO)_x$ group, wherein x is a number of about 1 to about 100.

41. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 40, wherein the third nonionic surfactant comprises an alkyl-ethylene oxide-propylene oxide surfactant.

42. (Currently Amended) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 40, wherein the silicone surfactant has the formula:

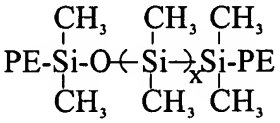


PA = $-(C_2H_4O)_a(C_3H_6O)_bR$ or



wherein x represent a number that ranges from ~~about~~ 0 to about 100, y represent a number that ranges from about 1 to about 100, a and b represent numbers that independently represent numbers that range from ~~about~~ 0 to about 60, a+b ≥ 1 and R is hydrogen or a C_{1-6} alkyl.

43. (Currently Amended) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the silicone surfactant has the formula:



wherein PE represents $-CH_2-(CH_2)_p-O-(EO)_m(PO)_n-Z$, x is a number that ranges from ~~about~~ 0 to about 100, p is 0 to 6, m and n are numbers that range from ~~about~~ 0 to about 50, ~~m+n≥1~~ m+n ≥ 1.

44. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the detergent composition comprises a polymer additive.

45. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 44, wherein the polymer additive comprises a polycarboxylate polymer.

46. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 wt.% to about 30 wt.% of the first nonionic surfactant.

47. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39 wherein the source of alkalinity comprises an alkali metal hydroxide.

48. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the source of alkalinity comprises an alkali metal carbonate.

49. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the detergent composition further comprises a hardness sequestering agent.

50. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 49, wherein the hardness sequestering agent comprises at least one of amino carboxylic acid salts, phosphonic acid salts, and mixtures thereof.

51. (Previously Presented) An alkaline composition according to claim 49, wherein the hardness sequestering agent comprises at least one of amino trialkylene phosphonic acid salt; 1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-diphosphonic acid salt; 2-phosphono-butane-1,2,4-tricarboxylic acid salt; and mixtures thereof.

52. (Previously Presented) An alkaline composition according to claim 49, wherein the hardness sequestering agent comprises aminotrimethylenephosphonic acid or salt thereof.

53. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 40, wherein the third nonionic surfactant comprises a capped linear alcohol ethoxylate.

54. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 53, wherein the third nonionic surfactant comprises a benzyl capped C_{8-12} linear alcohol with 6 to 16 mole ethoxylate.

55. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the detergent composition comprises a solid block having a mass of at least 100 grams.

56. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 55, wherein the detergent composition is packaged within a flexible wrapping.

57. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the detergent composition is in the form of a powder.

58. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the detergent composition is in the form of a pellet.

59. (Previously Presented) An alkaline detergent composition according to claim 39, wherein the composition comprises about 0.05 wt.% to about 20 wt.% of the second nonionic surfactant.

60. (Currently Amended) A method for removing soil from an article, the method comprising:

(a) forming an aqueous detergent composition from a solid detergent composition, the solid detergent composition comprising:

(i) an effective soil removing amount of a source of alkalinity to provide the detergent with a pH of at least 10 when provided as a 1 wt.% aqueous solution; and

(ii) an effective soil removing amount of a surfactant blend comprising a first nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient for providing starchy soil removal and a second nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient to provide a use solution having a surface tension of less than about 35 dyne/cm, wherein the second nonionic surfactant comprises a silicone

surfactant, wherein the silicone surfactant includes a hydrophobic silicone group and a pendant hydrophilic group having the formula:

$$R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}(R_2SiO)_x(\underset{\displaystyle \overset{|}{PE}}{RSiO})_y\text{-}SiR_3$$

wherein PE represents $-CH_2-(CH_2)_p-O-(EO)_m(PO)_n-Z$, x is a number that ranges from ~~about~~ 0 to about 100, y is a number that ranges from about 1 to 100, p is 0 to 6, m and n are numbers that range from ~~about~~ 0 to about 50, $m+n \geq 1$, and Z represents hydrogen or R and each R independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl; and

(b) contacting an article surface containing starchy soil with the aqueous detergent composition.

61. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein said step of contacting comprises contacting the article with an aqueous detergent composition provided at a temperature of between about 120° F and about 170° F.

62. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the aqueous detergent composition comprises a third nonionic surfactant comprising a hydrophobic group and an $-(EO)_x$ group, wherein x is a number of about 1 to about 100.

63. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the aqueous detergent composition comprises a polymer additive.

64. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim [[60]] 63, wherein the polymer additive comprises a polycarboxylate polymer.

65. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the detergent composition is provided at a concentration of between about 500 ppm and about 2,000 ppm.

66. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the detergent composition is provided at a concentration of up to about 5,000 ppm.

67. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein said article comprises dishware.

68. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein said article comprises laundry.

69. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60 wherein the solid detergent composition comprises about 0.1 wt.% to about 30 wt.% of the first nonionic surfactant.

70. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60 wherein the solid detergent composition comprises about 0.2 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the first nonionic surfactant.

71. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the solid detergent composition comprises about 0.05 wt.% to about 20 wt.% of the second nonionic surfactant.

72. (Previously Presented) A method for removing soil from an article according to claim 60, wherein the solid detergent composition comprises about 0.01 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the second nonionic surfactant.

73. (Currently Amended) A solid alkaline detergent composition comprising:

(a) an effective soil removing amount of a source of alkalinity to provide a detergent with a pH of at least 10 when provided as a 1 wt.% aqueous solution;

(b) a surfactant blend comprising:

(i) a first nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient for providing starchy soil removal; and

(ii) a second nonionic surfactant in an amount sufficient to provide a use solution having a surface tension of less than about 35 dyne/cm, wherein the second nonionic surfactant comprises a silicone surfactant comprising a hydrophobic silicone group and a pendant hydrophilic group having the formula:

$$\begin{array}{c} R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}(R_2SiO)_x(RSiO)_y\text{-}SiR_3 \\ \phantom{R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}(R_2SiO)_x(R}| \\ \phantom{R_3Si\text{-}O\text{-}(R_2SiO)_x(R}PE \end{array}$$

wherein PE represents $-CH_2-(CH_2)_p-O-(EO)_m(PO)_n-Z$, x is a number that ranges from ~~about~~ 0 to about 100, y is a number that ranges from about 1 to 100, p is 0 to 6, m and n are numbers that range from ~~about~~ 0 to about 50, $m+n \geq 1$, and Z represents hydrogen or R and each R independently represents a C_{1-6} alkyl; and

(c) a solidifying agent for solidifying the alkaline detergent composition.

74. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the detergent composition is in the form of an extruded block having a mass of at least 100 grams.

75. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the detergent composition is in the form of a powder.

76. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the detergent composition is in the form of a pellet.

77. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 wt.% to about 30 wt.% of the first nonionic surfactant.

78. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the composition comprises about 0.2 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the first nonionic surfactant.

79. (Previously Presented) A solid alkaline detergent composition according to claim 73, wherein the composition comprises about 0.1 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the second nonionic surfactant.